

From: Roger Atkinson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 3:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madame,

I might be just one person who has a comment on this settlement but I am also a person who works Full Time in a Sr. IT position. I work every day to research and justify the direction and expenditures that my company decides to allocate in it's IT endeavors. I feel compelled to comment on this very important issue not only as an IT professional but also a personal user of computing systems.

I have been using Microsoft products as well alternatives for well over the past 10 years. During this time it has been increasingly impossible to find alternatives to MicroSoft's products and when an alternative does exist, it usually is not around for much longer having been pushed out of the market place by Microsoft's predatory practices. Once the alternative is squashed, the product from Microsoft quickly becomes over priced according to current market practices.

I feel very strongly that Microsoft should be punished to the full extent of the allowable law for it's violations and any remedy should include the complete remittance or discount to those who have been hurt the most by Microsoft. Not only should the individual customers be given rebates or immediate relief from the high prices that Microsoft has imposed (as a result of their illegal Monopoly) but businesses as well should have recourse to recoup the damage that has been done to them.

I can say with complete honesty that my company has entered into a Corporate Licensing Agreement with Microsoft, not because they wanted too, but, because there either wasn't an alternative Enterprise solution available or the solutions available were not solvent due to being pushed out of the IT market place. Shame on them! Shame on the courts for not righting this wrong in a manner that allows the both the customers of Microsoft and the Companies harmed by Microsoft to get some relief.

Sincerely,

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